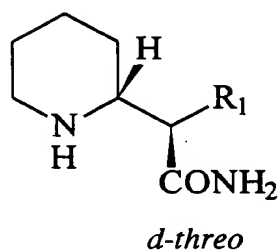
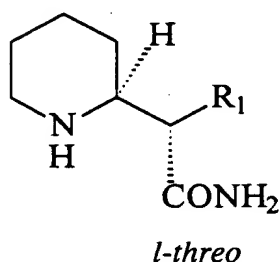


## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A synthetic process comprising the steps of:  
providing *d,l*-threo piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers having formulas:



- 5 wherein  $R_1$  is aryl having about 6 to about 28 carbon atoms; and  
reacting said stereoisomers with an acid resolving agent in an organic solvent,  
thereby forming acid salts of said *d*-threo stereoisomers preferentially with respect to  
said *l*-threo stereoisomers.

- 10 2. The process of claim 1 wherein  $R_1$  phenyl.

3. The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent comprises an alcohol, an  
alkyl alkanoate, a ketone, or an ether.

4. The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is an alkyl alcohol having 1  
to about 5 carbon atoms.

- 15 5. The process of claim 1 wherein said alkyl alcohol is isopropanol.

6. The process of claim 1 wherein said acid resolving agent is a derivative of D-tartaric acid.

7. The process of claim 1 wherein said acid resolving agent is a tartaric acid derivative having formula  $\text{HO}_2\text{CCH}[\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}_3]\text{CH}[\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}_3]\text{CO}_2\text{H}$  wherein each  
5  $\text{R}_3$ , independently, is aryl having 6 to about 28 carbon atoms or aralkyl having 7 to about 28 carbon atoms.

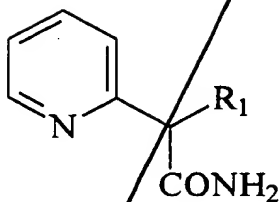
8. The process of claim 7 wherein  $\text{R}_3$  is aralkyl having 7 to about 28 carbon atoms.

9. The process of claim 6 wherein said acid resolving agent is dibenzoyl-  
10 D-tartaric acid.

10. The process of claim 1 further comprising reacting said *d-threo* acid salts with aqueous base to form said *d-threo* piperidine acetamide.

11. The process of claim 10 further comprising reacting said *d-threo*  
15 piperidine acetamide with an alcohol having 1 to about 5 carbon atoms in the presence of acid to form a *d-threo* piperidine acetate.

12. The process of claim 1 wherein said *d,l-threo* piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers are prepared by reacting a pyridine having formula:



with hydrogen in an alkanolic acid having 1 to about 10 carbon atoms in the presence of a catalyst to provide a mixture of *threo* and *erythro* piperidyl stereoisomers; and

contacting said *erythro* stereoisomers with organic base, thereby converting

5 said *erythro* piperidyl stereoisomers to *threo* piperidyl stereoisomers.

13. The product of the process of claim 1.

~~14. The product of the process of claim 10.~~